

What Happens to Claims Once OCAS is Done with Them?

Once OCAS has completed the dose reconstructions for claims, the results are sent to DOL. At that time, DOL will use guidelines for assessing the probability of causation to determine whether an individual's cancer is "at least as likely as not," to have been caused by occupational exposure to ionizing radiation. This will permit DOL to decide whether to award compensation to individuals seeking Federal compensation under the Act.

Overview of Claims Processing at OCAS

1. Receive Claim Packet from DOL
2. Catalog and File Claim Packet
3. Assign claim a NIOSH Tracking Number
4. Review Claim Packet Contents for Work History
5. Collect Dose Information from DOE
6. Review Dose Information
7. Interview Claimant
8. Conduct Dose Reconstruction
9. Submit Information from Dose Reconstruction to DOL & Claimant

This process may take several months to complete.

Contact Information

NIOSH, Office of Compensation Analysis and Support

4676 Columbia Parkway, MS R-45
Cincinnati, Ohio 45226
(513) 533-6800
(513) 533-6173 (Fax)
E-mail: ocas@cdc.gov

NIOSH Toll-Free Number:

1-800-35-NIOSH

NIOSH Web Site: www.cdc.gov/niosh

Dose Reconstruction Contractor

Toll-Free Number:

1-800-322-0111

Office of Worker Advocacy (EH-8) Office of Environment, Safety and Health

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)

Web Site: tis.eh.doe.gov/advocacy/index.html
Hotline: 1-877-447-9756

Department of Labor (DOL)

Web Site: www.dol.gov/esa/regs/compliance/owcp/eeoicp/main.htm
Toll-Free Number: 1-866-888-3322

DOL District Offices:
Jacksonville, Florida
1-877-336-4272

Cleveland, Ohio
1-888-859-7211

Denver, Colorado
1-888-805-3389

Seattle, Washington
1-888-805-3401

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NIOSH Office of Compensation Analysis and Support

...conducting activities to assist claimants and support the role of the Secretary of Health and Human Services under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000.



Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Institute for Occupational Safety
and Health



What is NIOSH?

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), an agency in the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). NIOSH is the Federal agency responsible for conducting research and making recommendations for the prevention of work-related disease and injury.

What is OCAS?

OCAS is the Office of Compensation Analysis and Support at NIOSH. OCAS is responsible for conducting occupational radiation dose reconstructions for certain workers with cancer who filed claims for compensation under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA or The Act).¹

In order to conduct the dose reconstruction, OCAS will obtain information, data, and records from the Department of Energy (DOE) or other sites where an individual has worked. In addition, OCAS will also conduct phone interviews with each claimant. This interview is designed to obtain any additional information regarding radiation exposure and work history to help us identify the information we need from DOE or other sources to complete radiation dose reconstructions.

¹ EEOICPA is the Act that established a compensation program for individuals who, over the past 50 years, have performed duties uniquely related to the nuclear weapons production and testing programs at DOE and its predecessor agencies. Workers from certain Atomic Weapons Employers (AWEs) are also covered under The Act.

What is Dose Reconstruction?

The basic principle of dose reconstruction is to characterize the occupational radiation environment in which a worker was exposed. This characterization is a scientific process that uses available personal monitoring and/or workplace information. In most cases, where an individual's radiation monitoring data is insufficient for a complete dose reconstruction, OCAS will use information provided to us from the claimant in a phone interview.

Who Can File Claims?

DOE nuclear weapons production and testing program workers (including certain contractors, subcontractors, and atomic weapons employers) or their survivors can file claims.



How to File a Claim

Anyone wishing to file a claim will need to complete either Form EE-1 or EE-2 along with Form EE-3 and send them to the Department of Labor (DOL). DOL will verify the eligibility of the claim and will submit eligible claims to OCAS for dose reconstruction. The forms can be obtained from DOL or the Resource Centers established by the DOL and DOE. Contact information for DOL and DOE is located on the back of this brochure.

How Does OCAS Receive Compensation Claims?

After DOL receives the claims, they will verify the eligibility of the claimant and will submit eligible claims to OCAS for dose reconstruction.

What is the Special Exposure Cohort?

The Act also established a "Special Exposure Cohort" (SEC). The SEC is comprised of employees:

- With specific cancers
- Who worked at three specific DOE facilities or participated in certain nuclear weapons tests
- Who meet other additional requirements (see The Act)

These employees' cancers are presumed to be radiation-related for compensation purposes under The Act.

Additional information on the SEC can be obtained by contacting OCAS or DOL. Contact information for OCAS and DOL is located on the back of this brochure.